

The University of Nottingham
Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body
Thursday 29 June 2017

MINUTES

10 Members Present, 14 Apologies, 4 in Attendance

17/36 Minutes

RECEIVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 18 May 2017.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved.

17/37 Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) Action log

An action log from the previous meeting had been presented to AWERB and progress updates provided to members. This included development of a seminar for the distribution of guidance regarding retrospective severity assessment with the intention of delivery in mid-late September.

(b) Applications considered at last meeting [Minute 17/24]

REPORTED: All three of the applications considered at the previous meeting had been submitted to the Home Office.

17/38 Chair's Business

(a) Membership

REPORTED: One member had left their position at the University and a replacement member would be required. A possible lay member external to the University had also been discussed and would be explored further. The terms of three members were approaching their end, the two members who had completed one term would be asked to remain on the AWERB (one member had indicated their intention to continue). The third member had now completed two terms and a replacement member would be required.

17/39 Biosecurity issue in the BSU

A researcher and member of the BSU responsible for the infectious suite presented to AWERB possible solutions and alterations to the BSU facility and processes to enable a new body of work to take place involving an infectious pathogen. Concerns had been raised that the current configuration presented a risk to the other animals being used at the BSU, considering the methods of transmission for this organism. Solutions had been discussed at length with AWERB members, with the primary aim being to enable the work to take place without compromising the needs of the research or risking other colonies with infection.

RESOLVED: AWERB generally approved of the proposals, though, further investigation was required regarding to the specifics of some of the equipment and possible impacts upon the research before approval.

17/40 Project Licence Applications

(a) Prof AA

REPORTED: The applicant had presented the proposed work which involved the study of interventions to food borne pathogens in the context of international food production.

A series of comments on the application were made by the Primary Reader, NVS and NAWCO. Questioning had been primarily focused around clarifying the detection of clinical symptoms as a result of both pathogen and intervention activity as well as the specifics of housing animals under the licence.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that the application be approved subject to comments being addressed.

(b) Prof BB

The applicant had presented an overview of the intended work to AWERB, which involved the study of the effects of different environmental configurations upon commercial livestock.

A series of comments on the application were made by the Primary Reader, NVS and NAWCO. AWERB members discussed the application with specific focus upon severity thresholds and resource availability to support the application.

RESOLVED: It was recommended that the application be approved subject to AWERB comments being addressed and discussed with the applicant following the meeting.

17/41 RCVS statement on recognised veterinary practice

REPORTED: The school of Veterinary Medicine and Science had provided AWERB with an RCVS statement document outlining details of the Veterinary Surgeon's Act in the context of both ASPA and non-ASPA work. Members were grateful for this information being provided, though no further comments had been raised.

17/42 Draft mid/interim licence retrospective review form

REPORTED: A draft interim review document had been designed and provided to AWERB members for comment. The document had included content from the current retrospective review form but amended to suit the purpose of an interim review. AWERB members had discussed the merits of the form and provided possible amendments. These included some suggested alterations to wording, providing a space for named person's comments, and provisioning additional guidance to those completing the form so that the level of detail received would be appropriate.

17/43 Summary of PPL applications and amendments

REPORTED: Updates on ongoing applications were given to members, with discussions primarily focused upon the time taken to process applications at different stages including turnaround time with the Home Office.

17/44 Approvals by Fast-Track Procedure for Report

REPORTED: Amendments to four licences had been approved by fast-track procedure.

17/45 Project Licences granted by the Home Office

REPORTED: Four licences discussed at previous AWERB meetings had been granted by the Home Office.

17/46 Any other business

No further business had been raised.